
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8019

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Senators Benton, Haugen, Sheahan, T. Sheldon, Roach, Shin, Reardon, Schmidt, Carlson, Swecker, Honeyford, Rossi, Oke, Zarelli, Esser, Morton, Stevens, West and Hale

Read first time 02/24/2003. Referred to Committee on Government Operations & Elections.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, The 1972 Antiballistic Missile Treaty was signed with a
9 nation that no longer exists; and

10 WHEREAS, An increasing number of nations either currently possess
11 the capability to launch missile attacks against the United States or
12 are working to obtain that capability; and

13 WHEREAS, Due in part to advances in technology, the possibility
14 that a missile bearing a weapon of mass destruction will be used
15 against United States forces or interests is higher today than it was
16 during most of the Cold War; and

17 WHEREAS, Terrorist groups, not just states, may have the means to
18 buy intercontinental ballistic missiles; and

19 WHEREAS, The nation still has no defense against missile attack;
20 and

1 WHEREAS, The Cold War policy of "mutual assured destruction"
2 assumed in arms control treaties is not sufficient to deter missile
3 attacks; and

4 WHEREAS, Washington state is vital to the strength of the United
5 States military by harboring several military bases: Fort Lewis,
6 McChord Air Force Base, Bremerton Naval Shipyard, Bangor Naval
7 Shipyard, Everett Naval Station, and Whidbey Island Air Force Base; and

8 WHEREAS, In case of attack, we must be able to rely and protect our
9 brave troops in and around these bases; and

10 WHEREAS, The importance of the Puget Sound Region is unparalleled
11 due to its accessibility for international commerce; and

12 WHEREAS, Defending against a missile attack is the government's
13 moral obligation;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully request our elected
15 Representatives and Senators in the United States Congress to support
16 and vote for all efforts to build and deploy a national missile defense
17 system as rapidly as possible.

18 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
19 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United
20 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
21 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
22 Washington.

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